

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Claims 1-29. (Cancelled)

30. (New) A method of polling in a packet-based data communications system, said communications system comprising a base station system polling connected user equipment, wherein said polling is performed according to:

a first type of polling allowing said user equipment to choose whether or not to transmit a user data packet to the base station system in response to reception of polling of the first type, and

a complementary second type of polling requiring the user equipment to transmit a user data packet or a dummy data packet to the base station system in response to reception of polling of the second type.

31. (New) A method according to claim 30, wherein said base station system performs polling according to the first type on a first logical channel, and performs polling according to the complementary second type on a second logical channel.

32. (New) A method according to claim 30, wherein the base station system transmits polling information to said user equipment, said information enabling the user

equipment to identify the polling type of the received polling.

33. (New) A method according to claim 32, wherein said polling information from the base station system is based on a current radio traffic situation in the communication system.

34. (New) A method according to claim 30, wherein said first type comprises polling with an upstate flag and said second type comprises polling with a control block.

35. (New) A method according to claim 30, wherein the communications system is selected from at least one of:

- a General Packet Radio Service (GPRS) communication system, an Enhanced GPRS (EGPRS) communication system,

- a GPRS/Enhanced Data rates for GSM (Global System for Mobile communications) Evolution (EDGE) communications system,

- a Wideband Code Division Multiple Access (W-CDMA) communications system,

- a CDMA2000 communications system,

- a Wireless Local Area Network (W-LAN) communications system.

36. (New) A method according to claim 30, wherein said user equipment in response to reception of said polling of the second type transmits a user data packet to the base station system if said user data packet is available for transmission in the user

equipment, otherwise the user equipment transmits the dummy data packet.

37. (New) A method according to claim 30, wherein said user data packet comprises user payload data and said dummy data packet comprises data enabling the base station system to identify the user equipment.

38. (New) A method according to claim 30, wherein said user equipment in response to reception of said polling of type one shall send a user data packet to the base station system if said user data packet is available for transmission in the user equipment.

39. (New) A method according to claim 30, wherein said user equipment in response to reception of said polling of type one shall send no data packet, neither user data packet nor a dummy data packet to the base station system if said user data packet is not available for transmission in the user equipment.

40. (New) A polling arrangement in a base station system of a packet-based communications system, said polling arrangement being adapted to polling of user equipment, wherein said arrangement comprises:

first means for polling according to a first type, allowing the user equipment to choose whether or not to transmit a user data packet in response to reception of the polling, and

complementary second means for polling according to a second type, requiring the

user equipment to transmit the user data packet or a dummy data packet in response to reception of the polling.

41. (New) A polling arrangement according to claim 40, wherein said arrangement is adapted to perform polling according to the first type on a first logical channel, and to perform polling according to the complementary second type on a second logical channel.

42. (New) A polling arrangement according to claim 40, wherein the arrangement is adapted to transmit polling information to said user equipment, said information enabling the user equipment to identify the polling type of the received polling.

43. (New) A polling arrangement according to claim 42, wherein the polling information is based on a current radio traffic situation in the communication system.

44. (New) A base station system in a packet-based data communications system, said base station system being adapted to polling connected user equipment, wherein said base station system comprises

- first means adapted for polling according to a first type, said first polling type allowing said user equipment to choose whether or not to transmit a user data packet to the base station system in response to reception of polling of the first type and,
- complementary second means adapted for polling according to a second type, said

second polling type requiring the user equipment to transmit a user data packet or a dummy data packet to the base station system in response to reception of polling of the second type.

45. (New) A base station system according to claim 44, wherein said base station system comprises third means adapted for analyzing the current radio traffic situation in the communications system and for determining which type of polling to transmit.

46. (New) A base station system according to claim 44, wherein said base station system is adapted to perform polling according to the first type on a first logical channel, and to perform polling according to the complementary second type on a second logical channel.

47. (New) A base station system according to claim 44, wherein the base station system is adapted to transmit polling information to said user equipment, said information enabling the user equipment to identify the polling type of the received polling.

48. (New) A base station system according to claim 47, wherein said polling information is based on a current radio traffic situation in the communication system.

49. (New) A base station system according to claim 44, wherein the communications system is selected from at least one of:

- a General Packet Radio Service (GPRS) communication system,
- an Enhanced GPRS (EGPRS) communication system,
- a GPRS/Enhanced Data rates for GSM (Global System for Mobile communications) Evolution (EDGE) communications system,
- a Wideband Code Division Multiple Access (W-CDMA) communications system,
- a CDMA2000 communications system,
- a Wireless Local Area Network (W-LAN) communications system.

50. (New) A base station system node in a packet-based data communications system, said node being adapted to polling connected user equipment, wherein said node comprises

- first means adapted for polling according to a first type, said first polling type allowing said user equipment to choose whether or not to transmit a user data packet to the base station system in response to reception of polling of the first type and
- complementary second means adapted for polling according to a second type, said second polling type requiring the user equipment to transmit a user data packet or a dummy data packet to the base station system in response to reception of polling of the second type.

51. (New) A user equipment in a packet-based data communications system, said user

equipment being adapted to receive polling from a base station system in said communications system, wherein the user equipment comprises:

first means for receiving and responding to polling of a first type, said first means being adapted for optional transmission of a user data packet to the base station system in response to said polling, and

complementary second means for receiving and responding to polling of a second type, said second means being adapted to mandatory transmit the user data packet or a dummy data packet to the base station system in response to the polling.

52. (New) A user equipment according to claim 51, wherein said equipment further comprises third means for identifying the polling type.

53. (New) A user equipment according to claim 51, wherein said equipment further comprises:

-a buffer unit for storing user data packets awaiting transmission.

54. (New) A user equipment according to claim 53, wherein said first means and said second means are adapted to check if there are any user data packets in the buffer in response to polling from the base station system.

55. (New) A user equipment according to claim 53, wherein

said first means are further adapted to receive polling according to said first type

on a first logical channel, and

said second means are further adapted to receive polling according to said second type on a second logical channel.

56. (New) A system for polling in a packet-based data communications system adapted to polling said system comprising:

means adapted for polling user equipment in said communications system according to a first type and a complementary second type,

first responding means adapted for optionally transmitting a user data packet from said user equipment to a base station system in response to reception of polling according to said first type, and

complementary second responding means adapted for obligatory transmission of the user data packet or a dummy data packet to the base station system in response to reception of polling according to said complementary second type.

57. (New) A system according to claim 56, wherein the system further comprises: control means adapted for analyzing the radio traffic situation in the packet-based data communication system, and for selecting which type of polling to perform.

58. (New) A system according claim 55, wherein the communications system is selected from at least one of:

a General Packet Radio Service (GPRS) communication system,

an Enhanced GPRS (EGPRS) communication system,

a GPRS/Enhanced Data rates for GSM (Global System for Mobile communications)

Evolution (EDGE) communications system,

a Wideband Code Division Multiple Access (W-CDMA) communications system,

a CDMA2000 communications system,

a Wireless Local Area Network (W-LAN) communications system.